

K-243

Kentfields Site  
Quaker Neck  
1st Quarter 19th Century

Built in the early 19th Century, Kentfields had stood on a part of Stratford Manor on the west side of Jarrett Creek. The house was a four bay frame structure which was one room deep—a form typical of Kent County's earliest farmhouses. Local recollections tell of a building originally constructed in two sections. This would not be difficult to believe, as many of Kent's houses are the product of successive additions. In the early 20th Century a third construction phase produced a square 1 1/2 story wing on the south side of the older section. Since the building was demolished in the 1960's, it is impossible to determine its exact age, but the author recalls details which were plain and quite typical of simple late Federal interiors. In the 1877 Atlas, the farm is listed as owned by T. W. Toulson.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common Kentfields (site only)

### 2. Location

street & number East side Quaker Neck Landing Rd. 1.7 miles south of Quaker Neck Road. R.D. 3 ☐ not for publication

city, town Chestertown ☒ vicinity of congressional district 1st

state Maryland 21620 county Kent

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name G. Van Velsor Wolf

street & number Kentfields, R.D. 3, telephone no.: 778-3586

city, town Chestertown state and zip code MD 21620

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Kent County Courthouse liber EHP 30

street & number folio 755 759

city, town Chestertown state Maryland 21620

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. K-243

Not applicable-site only

**Condition**

☐ excellent

☐ deteriorated

**Check one**

☐ unaltered

**Check one**

☐ original site

☐ good

☐ ruins

☐ altered

☐ moved

date of move

☐ fair

☐ unexposed

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Kentfields, which was torn down in the late 1960's to be replaced by a new house, was essentially a 2-part house. The northern section (as altered) was a 1½ story, 4-bay wide, 2-bay deep frame structure probably dating to the mid-18th century. A square, frame 1½-story addition, with its gable roof perpendicular to the original building, was built in the early 20th century at the original house's southern gable end.

## 8. Significance

Survey No K-243

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The site of Kentfields was a logical location for an early to mid-18th century house. It was elevated above the protected waters of Jarrett Creek, which about 4/10 mile distant empties into the Chester River. The creek in 1981 is quite shallow, but as late as the early 20th century it was said to have been deeper and still navigable by the sizeable sailing ships which stopped at a wharf on the property to load agricultural products. Conditions in the 18th century are conjectural, but it is not unlikely that the creek was similarly navigable then and that the spit which now almost closes the mouth of the creek was much smaller, if it was present at all. The original modest 1<sup>st</sup> story house originally on the site was typical of Kent County farmhouses of the 1<sup>st</sup> Century, and it is important to know that one was located here.

Survey No K- 243

## Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

**Quadrangle name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Quadrangle scale** \_\_\_\_\_

**UTM References** do NOT complete UTM references

**A**

Zone Easting Northing

**B**

Zone Easting Northing

**D**

E 

**F**

**G**

H | | | | | | | | | |

### Verbal boundary description and justification

**List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries**

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
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**name/title** Margaret Q. Fallaw, Surveyor

County Commissioners of Kent County

organization Historical Society of Kent County

**date** 5/81

## The Court House

778-4600

**street & number** Church Alley

**telephone** 778-3499

**city or town**      Chestertown

**state** Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.1 DESCRIPTION (continued)

BUILDING FORM AND MATERIAL

1. Size-Main Section: 1½ stories, 4 bays wide, 2 bays(1 room) deep (section was ca. 18' x 39')  
     Wing A: 1½ story addition, 3 bays wide, 3 bays deep(section was ca. 30' x 30')
2. Plan type (main section): originally probably hall and parlor; in the 1960's, before demolition, was central hall, with one room each side.
3. Roof type- Main Section: gable; wing: gable (perpendicular to older main section)
4. Chimneys- Locations:
  - 1) within north gable end of main section (in its added section), small and square; fireplace or stove opening in kitchen (1st floor room last served by chimney) was closed and covered; the bedroom above had no fireplace, just the plastered chimney passing through.
  - 2) center, south gable end at intersection with Wing A within wall of main section. There was a chimney base arch in the cellar and fireplaces in the dining room and bedroom above.
  - 3) near approximate center of Wing A, apparently for both fireplace and furnace flues. There was no evidence in a 1960's foundation plan of a chimney base arch near the north end of the main section cellar. The house as originally built may have had only the chimney and fireplaces at the south gable end, or a north chimney may have been removed when that area was altered.

Materials: Brick  
 Decorative Elements: #2 had a corbelled cap; the others could not be seen well in photo.
5. Material/Walls- Main Section: Frame, with beaded horizontal lapped weather board  
     Wing: Frame; type could not be identified from photo; wide-exposure weatherboard: asbestos shingles
6. Material/Roofs- Asphalt shingles throughout
7. Material/Foundation: Main Section: brick; cellar under south two-thirds; double modern bulkhead doors on east side between the two southern bays.  
     Wing A: brick; cellar; south wall had 3/3 double-hung cellar windows; east wall had 3-light windows.
8. Age- Main Section: Mid-eighteenth century (said by current owner to date from 1730's)  
     Wing: Early twentieth century
9. Style: 1½ story eighteenth-century vernacular.

BUILDING ELEMENTS AND DETAILS

1. Doors: Main Entry: south bay of west gable end of Wing A. The corner portion under the main gable roof appears to have been built as a small porch, which was later enclosed, with weatherboard

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.2 DESCRIPTION (continued)

below and windows above.

Secondary entries: Locations-1&2. Both ends of main section center hall;  
 3) north gable end (into small gable-roofed closed in entry section)  
 4) southeast bay of east gable end of Wing A;  
 5) approach facade, southern bay of main section-this entry location (and perhaps the actual door) may have been original to the oldest portion of the house. At the time of demolition it and the one surviving 9/6 window on the west side appeared to open onto a narrow enclosed walkway under an extended roof (accomplished by altering the roof line from the ridge downward). One apparently had to walk north in this walkway after exiting through this dining room door (nearest bay to the fireplace and the intersection with wing A) to reach the exterior wall's door, which was opposite the central hall door. Or, this door at this end of the house may have led to a half-bath though it originally was an exit door to the exterior. #1 above (east side central-hall door)-1 light over 3 panels)

## 2. Windows

Main Section: type--double hung; whether there might have been loft gable end casements could not be determined. Lights--9/6, probably original; paired 4/4 (kitchen). Details--could not be determined, but appears to have been plain. Shutters-removed.

Wing: type--double hung; casements in center of large dormer of wing. Lights-- 6/6 D.H.; 3/3 casements, Shutters-- possibly none originally.

## 3. Dormers

Main Section: 2 in west slope, 3 in east slope (one with double window); gable-roofed with weatherboard cheeks; double-hung sash with 6/6 lights; no eaves overhang; possibly early 20th century alterations or rebuilding. Wing: Large shingle-walled dormer in south slope; gable roof with returns; small central casements with 6/6 double hung windows each side.

4. Roof details: not discernible from photos

5. Concrete steps and stoop with no overhead-east side main section.

6. Color: last was white with green trim; historic colors not known.

7. Other: The north, main section in its final form was 4 bays wide and measured about 18' x 39'. From photos and a foundation plan, it appears that this section originally measured about 18' x 27' and was three bays wide, with a cellar. The original plan probably was hall and parlor. At some later time a 12' wide section was added to the north gable end of the early portion, extending the same roof line. This section was built over a crawl space. With this addition the 1st story plan was altered to a central-hall plan, with hall stair and one room on each side and one room each side of approximately equal size. In the 1960's the southern section was a dining room, the northern a kitchen (which had an early 20th century small entry/utility room addition added to it). A former resident of the house has said that the present rear section of a tenant house elsewhere on the property was moved from being a kitchen on the north end of the older section of the main house (before the small entry/utility room was added). There is no proof to either confirm or disprove this.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.3 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Prior to its demolition, the house had been extensively reworked. On the approach facade (west side) of the main, older section a second exterior wall seems to have been built outside the original one, perhaps enclosing a very narrow enclosed, ground-level porch or walkway. This second window set is visible in a photo from the dining room, through the one remaining 9/6 window on the west side. The addition of this second wall would seem to have necessitated altering the roof slope and rebuilding the roof on this side. To the west of the west kitchen wall a shed-roofed 3-4' "bump out" was added, but this contrasts distinctly with the added wall outside the dining room, which is under the gable roof slope, which seemingly does not change pitch.

At the time of demolition the second story of the main section had two small bedrooms on each side of the center hall. This division is unlikely to have been original, particularly in view of the apparently added 12' portion at the north gable end.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

1. Plan type: Main Section- central hall; Wing- unknown
2. Major stair: dogleg in central hall of older (main section). Originals (1 or 2) most likely would have been corner stairs, at the gable end(s).  
Other Stairs: wing addition-quarter turn with winders; there may have been a second stair in the wing
3. Major mantels: Dining room (south gable wall of main section) had a rather small rectangular opening; straight shelf with molded edge; raised moldings (the details of which could not be seen in photo) divided the mantel into numerous panel-like sections. (see sketch)
4. Major Trim: Windows/doors--dining room door to exterior, approach facade (Main section)- composite, possible ovolo with fillets backband.  
Baseboards: not visible in photos  
Cornices: none in dining room of main section  
Chair rails: vertical board wainscoting with simple chair rail profile.
7. Walls/ceiling finishes: papered and painted plaster

OUTBUILDINGS/SITE DESCRIPTION

1. Major outbuildings:
  - a. tenant house-frame, with aluminum siding; some German shiplap visible on rear section in porch. The rear portion (gable-roofed and one room on the first story) appears older than the front portion, which is perpendicular to it. The present two-story rear section may indeed have been attached as a kitchen to the main house, but only as a 1½ story section which was later raised. The rear section has been extensively reworked, including the addition of 4" x 4" posts and beams to the interior of the horizontal-board room walls. The north gable wall once had a fireplace (covered), which brick is visible from inside an adjacent closet. On the other side of the covered fireplace is a board-and-batten door leading to a ladder stair. Trim is mostly 1" fillet with ½" inside bead. The fireplace wall is of medium to wide random pine. The large 1st story room is low ceilinged. In all, this may be a mid to late 19th century portion and could have (as a 1½ story section) been moved when the large addition was made to the main house. The front portion of this tenant house may date to the early 20th century.
  - b. Gable-roofed barn, part of an outbuilding complex, has side shed-roofed additions. Foundation-brick piers. Gable-end overhang of one foot with tapered verge boards.



## CONTINUATION SHEET

## 7.4 DESCRIPTION (continued)

Construction system: pegged post and beam on 1st story; wide plank weatherboarding; wide plank floors. Double doors have three wrought penny-end hinges and one arrowhead-end hinge.

2. Site description: The axis of the main section ran north-south. The west side of the house was the modern approach side for land travel, down a long lane from Quaker Neck Landing Road. To the east the house overlooked, down a broad sloping lawn running to a promontory, Jarrett (Garrett) Creek.

3. Views to/from site : To the southeast, most of Jarrett Creek can be seen, including the spit now between it and the Chester River, which can also be seen in the distance. To the northwest is a cluster of joined farm outbuildings, with a tenant house located to their north/northeast. To the west, between the old house's site and Quaker Neck Landing Road, cultivated fields are to both sides of the lane, which has a quite recently planted allee. Trees are in the distance in all directions.

USE OF BUILDING

1. Current: Old dwelling was demolished and new house built on the same site in 1969-1970.
2. Historic: dwelling, farmhouse

3/13/69 K-243

A P

Kent- 243

Kentfields  
to be demolished April 2, 1969

to make way for new house

Near Quaker Neck Landing

msB

Kentfields is a one-and-one-half story house which was built in the late eighteenth century in an earlier style. It is four bays long on the east facade with door occupying the second bay from the north gable. There are 9/6 sashes in the windows that are original. The A roof dormers appear to be of the same building date - retaining the same trim as the first story windows. The dormers have 0/0 sashes. Clapboard is painted white and the trim is painted dark green. There is an enclosed porch on the west facade and a large wing forming a "T" on the south, having larger proportions than the original house.

There is a chimney at east end of the original section and one in the wing. The house is situated on a high area overlooking the protected harbor of Jarrett Creek and the Chester River.

Maryland

~~Went~~ - Kent

Choptank - Duck Creek landing

Md. # 661, 1 1/2 miles South of Md 289  
East side of road

Kentfields

K 243

18th Cent

Colonial

dwelling

NO

G. Van Velsor Wolf

dwelling

frame

1 1/2

Kentfields is a 1 1/2 story house which was built in the late 18th Century in an early style. It is 4 bays long on the E facade with door <sup>occupying the</sup> 2nd bay from the north gate. There are 9/16 wood in the windows that are original. The "A" roof dormers appear to be of the same build date - retaining the <sup>same</sup> trim as the 1st story windows. The ~~dormers~~ have to see. Clapboard is painted white and the trim is painted dark green. There is an enclosed porch on the west facade and a large ~~Wing~~ <sup>Wing</sup> on south, <sup>from a T</sup> having larger proportion than the original house. There is a chimney at east end of the original section and one in the wing. The house is situated on a high area overlooking the protected harbor of Jarrett Creek and the Choptank River.

advised NOest. fair

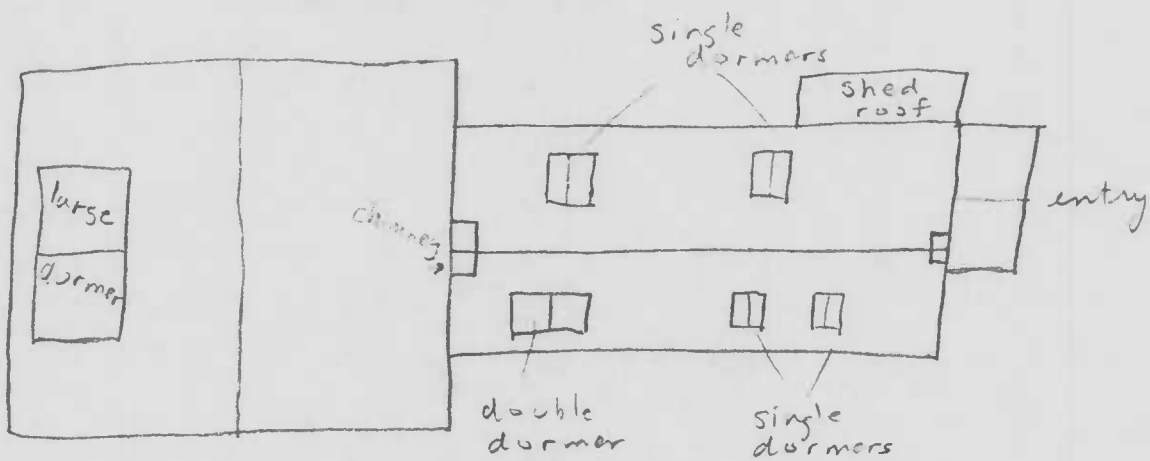
MVB

Oct 21, 1969

K-243

Roof Plan

Approach side



Creek side

N →

K-243

